

*Practical information, resources and opportunities for
north-west Tasmanian farmers and agricultural service providers.*

Welcome to the March edition of *Our Natural Advantage*, Cradle Coast NRM's monthly climate-smart farming snapshot.

The theme of this edition is:

Demonstrating Natural Capital Accounting

As part of Cradle Coast NRM's Our Natural Advantage project we are undertaking an On-farm natural capital accounting demonstration at the TIA Dairy Research Facility.

Read on to hear more about how the demonstration is progressing, including what we're doing, why we're doing it, and how it relates to north-west Tasmanian farmers.

What: An on-farm natural capital account developed utilising a rigorous scientific framework to measure and track changes in natural capital condition over time. This includes:

- a baseline assessment of soil and vegetation condition
- implementation of practical actions to improve natural capital
- on-going monitoring and re-evaluation to track outcomes
- Registration and certification through Accounting for Nature (AFN) framework

Where: TIA Dairy Research Facility, Elliott, Tasmania

Who: This demonstration is led by Cradle Coast NRM in partnership with the Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture (TIA) and supported by Fonterra and Dairy Tasmania.

When: Initial natural capital data was gathered in February 2025. On-farm natural capital improvement actions will be undertaken from early 2026 through to early 2028, when the condition of the farm natural capital will be again reassessed through the AFN framework. Communication and extension activities are being delivered throughout with the demonstration to be completed by June 2028.



Vegetation on the TIA Dairy Research Facility at Elliott.

Would you like to win a box of dung beetles for your property?

As part of the Our Natural Advantage project, we're keen to learn more about how you value and manage the natural capital on your farm to help us better plan and deliver events and resources for you.

From creek lines to shelterbelts and the bush block out the back, 'natural capital' encompasses all the natural assets present on your farm. These assets provide important services we don't always think about, such as shelter and shade for stock, reduced soil moisture loss and soil erosion prevention, as well as making our region a beautiful place to live.

Share your thoughts with us through our survey and go in the draw to win your very own box of 500+ live Bubas Bison dung beetles, plus a farm visit from our Sustainable Agriculture Facilitator Tom O'Malley.

Be quick - prize drawn March 20!

Win **A box of Dung Beetles!**



Could your farm use some extra critters this autumn?

For your chance to win a box of freshly caught *Geotrupes spiniger* beetles simply complete our **Natural Capital survey.**

Fill out our Natural Capital survey!

On-farm natural capital accounting demonstration continued...

Key objectives of the demonstration:

- Demystify Natural Capital Accounting and demonstrate how it can be used by farmers and industry in north-west Tasmania
- Demonstrate and implement targeted management practice to improve environmental health and align with Australian Dairy Sustainability Framework and supplier sustainability aspirations (Fonterra)
- Monitor changes over time to track improvements and resilience benefits for farms.
- Provide a practical model for farmers to integrate improved natural capital management into their operations
- Identify market opportunities, such as biodiversity and carbon credits, to create new revenue streams for farmers
- Bring north-west farmers along, so farmers can decide how accounting for and better managing on-farm natural capital could support their farm

What is Natural Capital?

'Natural Capital' or 'Natural Assets' are a re-branding of our natural resources – such as soil, water and living things – so they can be better recognised and valued in an economic sense.

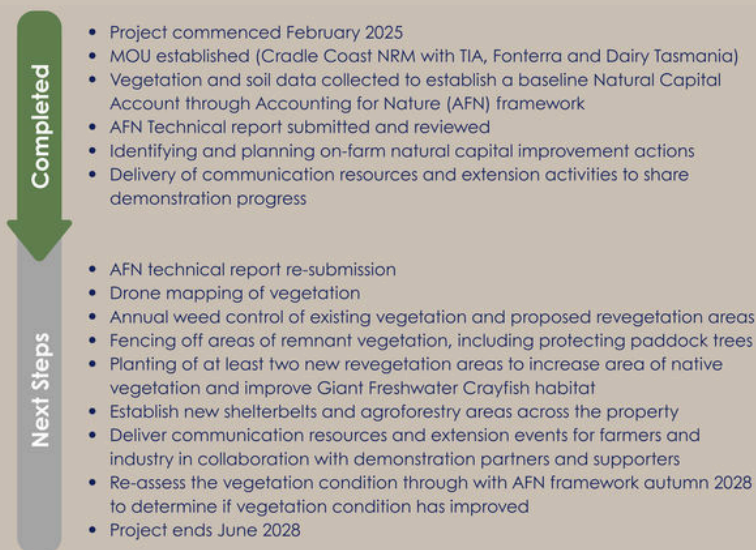
Why are people interested in natural capital accounting?

Did you know that \$44 trillion of economic value generation – over half the world's total GDP – is moderately or highly dependent on nature and its services and, as a result, exposed to risks from nature loss (World Economic Forum 2020)?

Unfortunately, our natural systems are in decline driven by immense pressure from human activities. This nature loss has far-reaching consequences. Damaged ecosystems drive up costs, undermine food security and put people and communities at risk.

To make good decisions that involve nature, we need to understand how nature supports our economy and wellbeing - which is where natural capital accounting fits in. The world is uniting in developing consistent systems of measuring and accounting for nature in an effort to value, preserve and enhance nature and better integrate into existing economic systems.

Project Progress:





Resources

Vegetation Management Proposal by Cradle Coast NRM: Dive deeper into the On-Farm Natural Accounting Demonstration. [Download the document here.](#)

Hear Hannah's Talk at the TIA Dairy Research Facility Field Day: Jump to 1 hr 17 minutes to hear her presentation. Watch the video [here.](#)

Managing Remnant Vegetation by Cradle Coast NRM: Check out our new information sheet [here.](#)

Hear Hannah speak about on-farm natural capital on the ABC's Country Hour: [Jump to 14 minutes, 45 seconds to hear the talk.](#)

Events and Opportunities

Expressions of Interest: Carbon that Counts

Hosted by West Pine in collaboration with Cradle Coast NRM, RMCg and Southern Farming Systems, this project will help case study farms to unlock the value of carbon accounting. EOI closes: 15 March [Learn more and apply to be a Case Study farm here.](#)

Soil and Plant Health: Science into Practice with Joel Williams

Hosted by: VegNet Tasmania
Location: Devonport
Date: 24 March
[Register here.](#)

Expressions of Interest: Growing Regeneratively

Hosted by VegNet, Growing Regeneratively is a 12-month, hands-on program for young Tasmanian veg and onion growers who want healthy soils and crops and more resilient businesses.
EOI closes: 31 March
[Submit your Expression of Interest here.](#)

Find us at Agfest 2026!

It's confirmed: Cradle Coast NRM will be back at Agfest this year.
Location: Carrick
Dates: 7 to 9 May



Missed a previous edition? Browse other topics from *Our Natural Advantage* below.

[View past editions](#)

If you would like to share a relevant resource, event or opportunity, please email landprogram@cradlecoast.com by 20 March to be considered for the next edition.

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